## State of Colorado



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Department of Personnel

Office of Administrative Courts

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June 13, 2006

Dear Members of the Workers' Compensation Bar:

Please note that the Office of Administrative Courts (OAC) is re-structuring our operations on the Western Slope. Micki Spolar, our long-term clerk on the Western Slope, resigned effective June 8, 2006 to go into the private sector and our other part-time clerk decided to retire. Judge William Martinez has accepted a position as a line judge in Denver, beginning in August. We are looking to hire a clerical staffer in Grand Junction but this hiring process takes time. In the meantime, we will be rotating judges from the Front Range to the Western Slope, including Judge Martinez. In addition, cases on the Western Slope have been dropping off, but let me assure you that we have **no** intention of closing the regional office in Grand Junction. However, significant re-structuring is warranted. Among other things, we have collapsed the Durango and Glenwood Springs dockets into the Grand Junction docket, effective July 1, 2006. This will deepen the trailing dockets in Grand Junction so it behooves the parties who intend to settle to settle early, and relinquish their docket slot sooner rather than later.

Effective immediately, all motions, correspondence and proposed orders are to be sent to our Denver Office: Office of Administrative Courts, 633 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1300, Denver, CO 80202, FAX # (303) 866-5909, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:oac-dvr@state.co.us">oac-dvr@state.co.us</a> For docketing, the procedures outlined below apply, effective immediately.

- 1. Parties can access setting dates via the web by going to http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/oac/wcset.htm. This listing is updated many times per week and provides parties with dates/time information as well as a count of the number of cases currently scheduled and the maximum cases that can be set for a specific docket.
- 2. Parties can also access setting dates by calling the **OAC** setting line at (303) 866-5881. This information is updated weekly. If parties need additional assistance, they have the option of connecting to a setting clerk from the same number. The setting line hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

3. Once all parties have agreed to a date for their hearing, they will need to send in a written confirmation document to OAC. This document can either be a letter or preferably the OAC hearing confirmation form(http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/oac/pdf/ConfirmationForm.pdf). The confirmation can be mailed to the OAC at 633 17th Street, Suite 1300, Denver, CO 80202, faxed to 303-866-5909, or e-mailed to OAC-DVR@state.co.us.

If you have additional questions, you may wish to speak with Judge Ed Felter, Supervisor of the Regional Offices.

Thank you for your patience as we make the appropriate adjustments in our staffing. As always, I welcome any ideas you may have.

Sincerely

Michael S. Williams Director and Chief Judge